

The True Northerner.

A. C. MARTIN & O. W. ROWLAND,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

PAW PAW, MICHIGAN, JUNE 16, 1882.

The State Central Committee have called the Republican State Convention to meet at Kalamazoo, Aug. 20th next, at 11 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of nominating State officers. This is not as early in the season as the convention has sometimes been called, but it gives the months of September and October for campaign work. A vigorous and thorough campaign, will keep Michigan in the position she has so long proudly occupied in the front rank of Republican States. We doubt not that the candidates to be nominated at Kalamazoo will all be triumphantly elected by handsome majorities.

The first political contest of the campaign of '82 took place in Oregon, resulting in a complete victory for the Republicans. This was unexpected. Oregon gave less than 700 plurality for Garfield in 1880, and it had been claimed by Democrats and tacitly conceded by Republicans that a Democratic victory was probable there. This opinion was based upon the fact that the State at best was considered doubtful, and the belief that the Chinese agitation had given the Democrats the advantage in the present election. If, as is probable the Legislature is Republican, Mr. Grover will step down and out, to be succeeded by a Republican in the next Senate.

Bro. Hall, of the Watervliet Record, was a little off in his legal disquisition on the fish law, last week. We call his attention to the amendment of Sec. 2087, C. L., 1871, found on page 190, Laws of 1879. He will observe by referring to that brilliant specimen of legislation, that there is no law to prevent netting, spearing etc. during the months of May and June. An effort was made in 1881, at the solicitation of parties in this county to restore the old law and a bill to that effect passed the Senate but died in the House during the last days of the session.

The entire law might as well have been repealed as to be amended in the way it is. In our opinion, spearing and netting ought to be prohibited at all times. If this were done, and the law in regard to fish shutes and ladders were properly enforced our streams and lakes would abound in fish as they did when the country was new, and more good would be accomplished than we are likely to do to ever receive by the costly system of artificial breeding and planting.

While the veterans were returning from the cemetery from decoration services on the 30th of last month, we heard a man, a stranger to us, commenting on the organization known as the Grand Army of the Republic. His remarks were to the effect that the institution was a wrong thing and ought not to be permitted, although he admitted there might be some things about it which he did not understand. No doubt there is, and he will probably never be any wiser in that direction. We venture the statement that this man who was thus advertising his ignorance and folly, never did any fighting during the war, unless it was of the kind known and well remembered as a "fire in the rear." The old soldiers have well earned the privilege of associating themselves together for the purpose of preserving the memory of those dark days that tried men's souls, for the purpose of renewing the friendships which were formed in camp and field, cemented in the smoke and flame of battle, or firmly welded by suffering in hospital or rebel prison pen, and no sensible man would seek to deny them this privilege. The order is not, as some seem to think, of a political character. Men of all shades of political opinion are welcomed within its fold. The one thing needed is that they should be able to show a clean war record and an honorable discharge from the army or navy of our country.

In closing his argument on the contested election cases, Mr. Burrows made use of the following impressive language:

"We want an honest ballot and a fair count. The Republic could withstand the shock of revolution; it could overcome the invasion of foreign foes; it could endure the murder of its executive heads, but it could not long survive assassination of its sovereign will at the ballot box. Against this high crime aimed at a nation's life, I enter a nation's eternal protest."

These words should be read and remembered by every man who desires to see republican government perpetuated in this country.

When our elections shall have degenerated into a farce, and are carried by tissue ballots, as in the Mackey-Dibble case, by counting out as in the Lynch-Chalmers case, or by any other kind of fraud, and instead of reflecting and declaring the will of the people, are result of ballot box manipulating, and the wicked scheming of demagogues, then we are on the high road to political anarchy and ruin.

And yet we find the democratic party in Congress, and in its press, maintaining and sustaining the most glaring and clearly proven frauds by every means within its grasp, resorting to filibustering and blocking the wheels of legislation, in order to keep members in seats to which they held not a shadow of title, and which were obtained by means that would mantle the cheek of an honorable man with a blush of shame.

Shades of Jefferson and Jackson how art the mighty fallen!

The hard work by which the Burrows bill to prevent black-mailing operations under the patent laws was advanced to special consideration and pushed through the house, will all be practically thrown away if the senators from Michigan and other states most affected by the bill do not give it similar support in the senate. The bill was very successfully handled in the house by Mr. Burrows, but it has been allowed by members of the senate to drop out of sight. Under the lead of the *Scientific American* the entire patent right following and many manufacturing interests are commencing to concentrate their efforts against it. It has one of the most powerful influences to fight and the vigorous public sentiment which the bill represents must now show itself more forcibly than ever. We will now have an opportunity to see if the Michigan members in the senate can overcome the opposition as successfully as the Michigan member in the house.—Kalamazoo Telegraph.

The Tariff.

Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Madison, Webster, and other great men advocated protective tariffs. The sagacious Franklin urged on farmers the benefits of home manufactures. That friend of the people, Abraham Lincoln, declared himself an advocate of a protective tariff. Frederick List, in Germany, the French Statesman Thiers, and other eminent foreigners held like opinions. Professor Reuleaux, President of the German commission at our Centennial Exposition, went home and said: "The present condition of American manufactures shows the fallacy of the free-trade doctrine that the productions of a country are raised in price by protective duties." What a pity it is that these great men were so ignorant! Some free-trader could greatly enlighten Washington and Jackson on tariff robbery! The free-trade movement is "run" in the interest of foreign manufacturers and their importing agents, and of political demagogues.

Tariff for revenue only is the pet idea of free-traders. It is a British notion, and they but echo a British voice in advocating it. The English raise revenues of about \$100,000,000 annually from duties on tea, coffee, sugar, tobacco and like articles which they do not and cannot produce at home, and admit woollens, cottons, iron and like articles which they manufacture largely free of duty.

We are asked to adopt the same plan or some approach toward it. If we do, our British cousins hope, with their great capital and cheap labor, to break down our manufactures, get control of our markets, and then charge us what prices they please for their goods.

A London journal says: "The success of the Free Trade League in the United States would largely increase our American trade."

So we have a "tariff for revenue only" praised in persuasive tones.

Protective tariffs pay the best revenue, because the country prospers the best with that policy.

"Nullification of the Patent Laws."

EDITOR TRUE NORTHERNER:

The above is the head-line to an article in last week's *Advance*, in which an effort is made by its editor, with the aid of an article quoted from the "Scientific American," to show that the recent legislation, engineered through the House by the representative from this district, to protect innocent purchasers of patented articles, is unconstitutional in this that it takes away from inventors the protection the constitution and former enactments threw about the property rights which are admitted to exist in their inventions. The object of this discussion by journals in this district, is not to guard the rights of inventors, but to present Mr. Burrows to the public as an incompetent legislator. It will be observed that these gentlemen are willing that the thousands of farmers and others who have been compelled to pay large royalties to inventors, after they have paid a full and adequate consideration for the article purchased in good faith in "open market," should be further fleeced or put to great expense in litigation, in order that a narrow and personal warfare may be waged against our representative, under the pretext of defending the constitution and the rights of patents. But is the law unconstitutional? If it is then Mr. Burrows is not alone in misapprehending the scope of congressional power over this important subject, for the bill was passed by an overwhelming majority of the members of the House and received the support of many of the foremost statesmen of the present age. That the exclusive right is conferred upon the inventor, his heirs executors and assigns to make, vend and use, that which has been invented by him, is not denied. But because this is so, does it follow that he must necessarily be permitted to get his address for the violation of his rights against the innocent? Is it not more equitable and just that he should be compelled to pursue his remedy against the wrong doer who invades his rights as this law forces him to do, than to be allowed to disregard the wrong doer entirely, and seek a recovery against the innocent purchaser who purchases, is more able to pay and less inclined to litigate, the often times outrageous demand? Then again this law precludes the possibility of the owner of a patent, sending emissaries through the country to dispose of his rights, in order that he may follow in their wake and reap the reward of good, round royalties. It does not deprive the inventor of his remedy as is claimed by these learned disquisitors; but limits him in his right to recover for infringements to the guilty parties. It is our humble opinion that the law invades no property right of the inventor, but simply limits his remedy in such a way as to protect good faith purchasers for a full consideration of articles found in the market, with no means of knowing that in so doing they are violating the rights of an unknown inventor.

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